



Reminder!!!  
My SARC  
membership  
renewal is due

# Communicator

October 2013

## Basic Digital

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October Calendar

SEPARS Report

News You Can Lose

and Much More!

SARC September Meeting  
In-House Swap Meet

The October 2013 Newsletter of the Surrey Amateur Radio Club  
Next Meeting October 9<sup>th</sup>—Working Basic Digital Modes



# The Communicator



**SURREY  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

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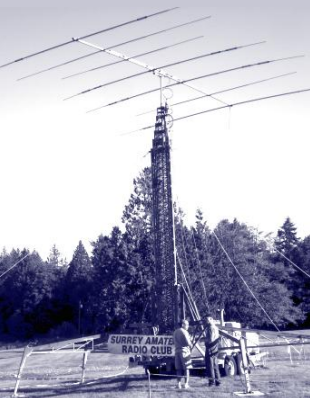
Hui Yee ve7yxg

## VIA THE WEB

[www.ve7sar.net](http://www.ve7sar.net)

The SARC Communicator is published monthly for members of the Surrey Amateur Radio Club.

SARC maintains a website at [www.ve7sar.net](http://www.ve7sar.net) that includes club history, meetings, news and other information.



## September Monthly Meeting Minutes

### Minutes of the Sept. 11, 2013 Meeting

The meeting was brought to order at 1900 hr by President John Brodie VA7XB. A welcome was extended to visitor Frank Nassachuk VE7IIQ and recently-licensed new member Brian Birch VA7BUS.

### Financial Report

Treasurer Scott VE7HA presented his financial report for the chequing and savings accounts and reported a healthy bank balance. He also gave a detailed breakdown of Field Day expenses and income, reporting an apparent loss of \$272 for FD; reasons for the apparent loss were explained, as this year the expenditures were actually in keeping with the budget. John VA7XB stated that a new application (due Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>) for a 2014 Surrey Community grant is in preparation, and that at the same time application will be made for payment of the 2013 grant. Scott reminded the group that 2013/2014 club dues are now payable.

### Cruise-in

John VA7XB stated that the Cruise-in and raffle appeared to be a success, with the final profit yet to be determined. He presented the raffle first prize to Hui Yee VE7YXG and congratulated the second prize winner Scott VE7HA. Thanks were expressed to those SARC and SEPAR members who volunteered at the Cruise-in: Scott Hawrelak, Bill Little, Anton James, Nell & Ralph Wrotniak, Al Neufeld, Kelvin Hall, Jinty Reid, Peter Gauld, Donald McLean, Kapila Jayaweera, Jim Ewing, and Chris Cowx. He also expressed thanks to the organizers from LARA: Al Munnik, Don Dangelmaier, John Mackay, and LARA's volunteers. Al Munnik VA7MP reported that the Cruise-in organizers were grateful for the services provided and may be looking to an expanded role for SARC/SEPAR/LARA next year.

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Elizabeth Gilchrist  
VA7ELA

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[RAC News](#)  
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	SEPARS Net	SARC Net
1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday	Drew VA7DRW Jay VE7OFH Standby	Drew VA7DRW
2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	Dixie VA7DIX Alan VA7BIT Standby	Jinty VA7JMR
3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	Rob VE7CZV	Anton VE7SSD
4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday	Peter VE7PGX Dixie VA7DIX Standby	John VA7XB
5 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday	Jinty VA7JMR	Bill VE7XS
Want a turn at Net Control? Contact the SARC Net Manager <a href="mailto:VE7CZV@separs.net">VE7CZV @ separs.net</a>		

## CLUB EXECUTIVE 2013-2014

### PRESIDENT

John Brodie VA7XB

### VICE PRESIDENT

Brett Garrett VE7GM

### SECRETARY

Vacant

### TREASURER

Scott Hawrelak VE7HA

### DIRECTORS

John Schouten VE7TI  
(Communicator Editor)

George Merchant  
VE7QH (Repeaters)

Bill Little VA7ZBL  
(Membership)

Rob Gilchrist VE7CZV  
(Net Manager)

Bill Gipps VE7XS

SARC hosts an Amateur Radio net each Tuesday evening at 8 PM. Please tune in to the VE7RSC repeater at 147.360 MHz (+600 KHz) Tone=110.9, also accessible on IRLP node 1736 and Echolink node 496228. On UHF we operate a repeater on 443.775MHz (+5Mhz) Tone=110.9 and EchoLink Node 1737



## SARC Name Badges

Those members wishing to order name badges (\$10 each) should let Scott VE7HA know so he can place a bulk order.

## Fund-Raising

It was announced that Pat Speer VA7XE had donated a SONY CT 260 Sound Bar System which will be the prize in a new fund-raiser. Tickets are available at \$5, or 3 for \$12, and when \$100 worth of tickets has been sold, the winner will be selected. *(Further details on the prizes may be found on pages 10 and 12 of this issue—Ed.)*

## Future Meetings

The agenda for future meetings was rolled out:

- Oct 9 - John VE7AXU - digital modes for the absolute beginner
- Nov 13- John White on lightning protection for your shack
- Dec 7 - Christmas party
- Jan 8 - Adam Farson on early German radio
- Feb, March - not finalized
- April 9 - Bob Heil video podcast on microphones, headsets and audio
- May 14 -Field Day theme
- June 11 - AGM

Members were asked for their ideas and the following suggestions came forth:

- Elizabeth VA7ELA and Nell VA7PE: a beginners' level talk on antennas suitable for condos
- Jay VE7OFH: comparison between DStar & the new Yaesu digital protocol

## Role of Elected Directors

The Executive positions as filled at the June Executive Meeting are as follows:

Director1 - President	John VA7XB
Director2 - Vice President	Brett VE7GM
Director3 - Treasurer	Scott VE7HA
Director4 - Communicator	John VE7TI
Director5 - Repeater	George VE7QH
Director6 - Membership	Bill VA7ZBL
Director7	Bill VE7XS
Director8—Net Manager	Rob VE7CZV

## Christmas Party

Jinty VA7JMR reported that the Christmas party will be held at Coyote Creek golf course on Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>. Scott VE7HA noted that a \$500 deposit had been paid earlier in the year. Jinty will be asking for finalization of the menu shortly. This location promises to have better access and acoustics compared with last year's venue. *(Please sign-up early—see pages 14 and 20 for details—Ed.)*

## SEPARS

Kelvin announced that he is moving out of town shortly and is therefore stepping down as SEPARS Coordinator. The current VP, Al Saunders VA7BIT, will take over as SEPARS coordinator and SEPARS president with Ron Casey VE7VTA as SEPARS vice-president, until the next AGM in 2014. The President and members thanked Kelvin for his years of good service and wished him well.

## Communicator

John VE7TI encourages the submission of technical and other articles for the Communicator, which should be sent to: [sarcommunicator@outlook.com](mailto:sarcommunicator@outlook.com). John surveyed members present to determine if, in future, a link should be sent out instead of the pdf email attachment. After discussion, members accepted the suggestion of an email link only. In response to a question from Jonathan VA7JBC, as to how long the link should be active, Hiu VE7YXG stated a preference for two months. Elizabeth VA7ELA asked if we

*(Continued on page 4)*

# DOWN THE LOG...

## SARC Monthly Meetings

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday (Sept-Jun)  
1900 hrs local at the Emergency Management BC PREOC,  
14275 96th Avenue, Surrey, BC

## Weekly Club Breakfast

Friday at 0800 local  
ABC Country Restaurant at  
600 - 7380 King George Blvd.  
Surrey

## SARC Net

Tuesday at 2000 hrs local  
on 147.360 MHz (+) Tone=110.9

## SEPARS Net

Tuesday at 19:30 hrs local  
on 147.360 MHz (+) Tone=110.9

## Announcements & News

SEPARS Monthly Workshop  
Third Thursday, 1900-2130 local  
14923—64th Ave, next to Firehall  
#9, Surrey.

## SEPARS Training

Fourth Saturday, 0830 local,  
Firehall #1, 88 & 132nd Street,  
Surrey

## On the Web

[ve7sar.net](http://ve7sar.net)

Between newsletters, watch your e-mail for announcements of events, monthly meetings and training opportunities. These announcements can also be found on our web page, or via:

## Twitter

[@ve7sar](https://twitter.com/ve7sar)

Photos  
Web Albums



(Continued from page 3)

can print an article with the material from monthly speakers; response was that PowerPoint presentations are usually not suitable for publication in the Communicator; however, the speakers' Powerpoint presentations are often given on the website. Al VE7CDC and Jay VE7OFH presented arguments for distributing the Communicator more widely as advertising for the club; it was concluded that the policy for distribution of the Communicator would be reviewed by the Executive.

### Website

Hui VE7YXG reported that there were no website issues. Jinty VA7JMR stated that the net script available from the link on the SARC website makes no mention of Echolink (actually it is the SEPAR script that makes no mention of Echolink and IRLP - JB). John VE7TI mentioned that SARC's Twitter site has a large number of followers and as the posting of club items provides direct benefits to the club, he would welcome information for posting. Twitter can be accessed at: <https://twitter.com/ve7sar>.

### Repeater

George VE7QH reported that the VHF and UHF repeaters (including Echolink and IRLP) are currently working well and use is increasing.

### Contests/Operator Training

Brett VE7GM gave brief plans for operator training and station manager training. A meeting of the core training team will be held the week of 16 September. Focus this year is likely to be building skills rather than attracting new trainees. A list of contests to be used for training will be prepared and sent to all registered trainees. If members not already registered would like to join the program they should contact John VA7XB or Brett VE7GM. Brett expressed the hope that a station manager's training course could also be arranged.

### Field Day

Brett VE7GM stated that FD standings for FD2013 are not known yet. Our goal for 2013 was to be first in our class in Canada but it is not known if that goal was achieved. The planning group met after FD and confirmed support for again aiming for first place in our class in Canada, and this recommendation will be taken to the SARC executive. Brett stressed that volunteers to take responsibility for FD tasks will be required early. The group is losing Kelvin VA7KPH, who has been a member of the core team, so the core team is now smaller. The experience of organizing a FD event is invaluable for hams who aspire to become knowledgeable in emergency communications.

### Post-Meeting Social Gathering

John VA7XB confirmed that the after-meeting social gatherings will continue at McDonalds near 156th Street and Fraser Highway.

### Equipment Loan Program

John VA7XB stated that the club has some equipment that could benefit the members by being available for loan. The procedure will be for the member wishing to borrow equipment to make a request to the Executive and, upon approval, complete a form indicating agreement with the rules. A list of available equipment will be put on the website for perusal.

### Task Assignments

John VA7XB reviewed the various task assignments that require filling and asked for volunteers. Jonathon VA7JBC offered to help out with several tasks subject to his availability, and Kapila VE7KGK is willing to assist with photography. Those tasks that remain unfilled include: secretary, programs, events write-up, and nominating committee.

### Net control

Rob VE7CZV announced that he is looking for additional volunteers to take net control once a month or fill in occasionally. Elizabeth VA7ELA offered to do so.

### Other/New Business

Al Munnik VA7MP advised the group that he is now RAC Sub-Director for the Fraser Valley, under Director Bill Gipps VE7XS.

Kjeld VE7GP noted that the SEPAR trailer is now complete and ready for use (emergency or otherwise).

Bill VA7ZBL offered his collection of historic QSL cards to any member who wished to have them.

The meeting was adjourned at 2010 and the swap meet commenced. Thanks to Anton for transporting all the surplus club items to the meeting and arranging for disposal of the unwanted items.

*Recorded by John VA7XB with assistance from Brett VE7GM*

### SEPAR Meetings

Third Thursday of each month starting at 1900 hrs

Fourth Saturday of each month starting at 0900 hrs

Location and event schedule can be found at [separ.shutterfly.com](http://separ.shutterfly.com) — click on the calendar tab



## FEATURE

## Coming Up In October: Digital Modes For Beginners

Presented by John MacFarlane VE7AXU

At the October 2013 meeting of the club we will be presenting a talk on “Digital Operations for Absolute Beginners”. This will be especially valuable for newer hams - and those who are thinking of getting on HF (high frequency) after operating on VHF/UHF. It will cover all the basics and some of the practicalities of antennas and hardware equipment. John (VE7AXU) will cover it all - in simple language and practical experience.

Once the excitement of achieving the licence and checking into the Club repeater has worn off many new hams start to look for more exciting horizons and on-air experiences. Digital modes are a great place to start - and terrific results with modest equipment can be achieved. Even residents of houses that are antenna challenged can experience the fun and action of the digital modes.

There really is no reason for any ham who really wants to get on HF - and work stations all over North America (or farther afield) - should not be able to get operational after learning the basics, picking up some new knowledge and operating with simple equipment. Often it's just a matter of confidence - and desire to get on the air!

Come to the presentation and boost your knowledge - and decide whether digital operations are right for you!

### Abstracted from the RFI Reflector...

Good Advice from K6UJ if you experience RF Interference (RFI) on Your Radio.

RFI problems have plagued many of us, me included. First thing is to determine if the noise source is in your own dwelling or external to your dwelling.

If you can power your radio from a battery temporarily, have it listening to the noise and shut off AC power to the house with the main breaker. If the noise goes away it is in your house somewhere. If it doesn't then it is external to the house. If it is in the house, then one by one, turn on the circuit breakers until the noise reappears, that will

be the circuit the noise maker is on. Then you can go around and disconnect one by one everything that is plugged in to this circuit. You will be able to determine where the culprit is this way.

If it is external to the house then you will need to do some checking with a portable AM radio to start with and see if you can zero in on the location. Hopefully it is inside your house. I have found a number of RFI offenders this way. The last culprit was a battery charger for a portable drill in the garage. Another one was our satellite TV receiver, I had to unplug it from the outlet to find it was an offender, even though it was turned off the power supply is always on and generating noise.

~ Bob K6UJ

Jeff K8ND has recorded a short (90 second) [video](#) of *CW Skimmer* operation during the 2009 CQWW 160 CW Contest at PJ2T (#3 that year), as a demonstration of the value of *CW Skimmer* to the Multi-Op or Single-Op Assisted contest. Viewing in 'Fullscreen' is strongly recommended! The 90-second segment was recorded on January 24 starting at 0514Z, as sunrise was moving across Central Europe. For more on PJ2T's top band capabilities, check out Jeff's [planning document](#).



## SARC Raffle

### 2.1 Channel 300W Soundbar

**\$5 buys one chance; \$12 buys 3 chances**

Draw will be held when \$100 worth of tickets have been sold.



Donated by Pat Speer VA7XE

Model - SONY CT 260 Sound Bar System with wireless Subwoofer, manual, digital coaxial cable and remote. Worth about \$300.00. Approx. 6 months old.

On sale at Best Buy for \$299.99 (\$50.00 off the regular price) and at Future Shop for \$349.99

*"Bring incredible sound and heart-pounding bass to your living room with the HT-CT260 sound bar. Its wireless subwoofer makes setup a breeze while built-in Bluetooth makes it easy to wirelessly stream music from your smartphone, PC, tablet, music player, or other Bluetooth enabled device. With a Digital Optical cable (included) it easily connects to your HDTV, and its unique design delivers an optimal sound experience without the need to connect multiple speakers throughout the room. A perfect fit 40" or larger HDTVs, this sound bar is also wall mountable or can be placed on a tabletop."*

*Bring your TV experience to life with exceptional audio marked by rich, natural sound with incredible clarity and definition in a compact, stylish design."*



*Some happy campers at the last SARC monthly meeting in September. After the business meeting there was an in-house swap meet and several members went home with a lighter load. Of course some came home with a new batch of treasures.*







## Radio-Active

Jinty Reid VA7JMR

### Introducing Elizabeth Gilchrist VA7ELA

Elizabeth Gilchrist was born in McBride but shortly after her birth the family moved to Fort St John, finally ending up in Port Coquitlam. She graduated from Port Coquitlam High School and went on to attend UBC on scholarship where she studied music, majoring in trumpet with her minor in piano and voice.

Elizabeth's mother was a professional musician and both her brother and father were musical. Coming from such a musical family it is not surprising that Elizabeth was music director and choir director for various churches at the age of 18. Even when she was 15 years old she taught piano.



While attending UBC she met Rob in 1979 and in 1985 they married after graduating from university. They relocated to their present home in Surrey. Rob and Elizabeth have a daughter, Sarah, who is a young adult now and lives with them.

Continuing with her music, Elizabeth teaches piano, voice and brass instruments as her home business. Not content with all these talents, Elizabeth also composes. In addition, she teaches ESL from home and Rob helps her in this activity. Rob VE7CZV is an avid ham and a member of SARC and SEPAR.

Elizabeth's initial interest in radio started in elementary school where at the age of 10 she built a basic radio from a kit. Her father was a CB operator.

In October 2012 Elizabeth obtained her ham radio license and she is now a member of SARC. She is interested in learning contesting in the future.

Elizabeth was so busy with her music that she did not have time to do much travelling so she hopes some time in the future to visit Japan, Africa and walk on the Great Wall of China. She is part Japanese through her grandfather so is very interested in this culture. When asked to blow his wife's trumpet, so to speak, (not literally) Rob stated that, besides being musical, she has a good sense of humour, is adept at teaching and has a good analytical mind which could be a great asset to SARC.



On Thursday Oct 17th at 1017hrs, BC will hold the

#### Great BC Shakeout

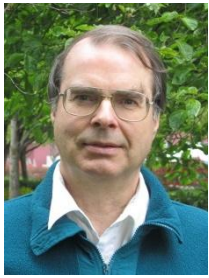
earthquake drill. This is an excellent opportunity to test your emergency plan.

For more information go to [www.shakeoutbc.ca](http://www.shakeoutbc.ca)

#### Wanted

Rob VE7CZV still needs an auto-tuner for his HF rig, specifically for 80m.

If you have or know of one that is available at a good price, please contact Rob via [robgil@telus.net](mailto:robgil@telus.net)



## The Contest Contender

Brett Garrett VE7GM

### Operator & Station Manager Training Program Update

The SARC-SEPARS Operator Training program that has been given for the last two years will be continuing again this year with some significant improvements.

The success of the training program can be seen in the substantial improvement in our Field Day scores over the last two years. The training program for this year will again be oriented to producing a winning team for 2014 Field Day.

Last year our focus was on ensuring we had captured all interested SARC-SEPARS members. To this end, we provided members who were not already in the training program with an opportunity to try contesting in a low-stress setting to see if they would like to go on to the full training program. We called this introductory program "Get Your Feet Wet" (GYFW), and four participants from this program went on to play key roles in our Field Day for 2013 (three operators and our GOTA coach).

We have built our trainee list for this year from those who have participated in either the full program or the GYFW program, operators from Field Day 2013 (FD2013), and individuals who have indicated or demonstrated interest separately.

This year our focus will be on substantially raising the operating capabilities and experience of those participants. Our experience in Field Day 2013 (FD2013) suggested areas of opportunity for improving operator performance. If we are to earn the top position in our category in Canada for Field Day in 2014, we will need to take advantage of these along with all other opportunities for improvement.

The training program organising team, led again by Jim VE7FO with assistance from Fred VE7IO, John VA7XB, and Brett VE7GM, has recently met to decide on the list of contests to be used (see table) and changes in approach this year that will address the opportunities observed during our last Field Day.

The most significant outcome from that meeting was the creation of a Station Manager training program to run alongside the Operator Training program. The Station Manager role at Field Day is responsible for the strategic operating decisions that ensure we get best value from our available operators at all times. (We had intended to start the Station Manager program last year, but events

worked against us.) The Station Manager training program will also be led by Jim VE7FO, and a potential trainee list has been developed, primarily from the list of planned participants from the program we intended to run last year, and the list of Field Day 2013 Station Managers.

For the Operator Training program, we are introducing a number of improvements.

First, our experience from FD2013 demonstrated that, however hard we work to prepare a schedule of modes and bands ahead of time, we can lose significant score if we don't have flexibility to change bands and operating modes at the "drop of a hat". Our Station Manager training program will be teaching our Station Manager trainees how to make these decisions, but we will also need flexible operators to allow the Station Manager to implement the decisions once made. So this year all operator training participants will be expected to participate in a more-or-less equal number of sessions for two or more modes. Since CW seems to be a high hurdle for ops who don't already have some background in CW,



*Congratulations to our contest group participants for the  
2012 RAC Canada Winter Contest*

*The Operator(s) were:  
VA7QB, VA7XB, VE7AXU, VE7GM, VE7IO,  
VE7JT, VE7OFH, and VE7WJ*



this will mean that most trainees will need to attend sessions for both SSB and RTTY.

The selection of contests has been made with this requirement in mind, and provides approximately the same number of opportunities for RTTY and CW, and half again as many for SSB.

Second, to ensure all trainees get the opportunity to improve to the best of their ability, this year all trainees will be expected to commit to participation in at least five formal training sessions during the year, with each training session being a minimum of four hours (six hour slots will be available for trainees who are really striving to advance).

Third, all trainees will be expected engage in at least two practice sessions under their own calls between training sessions, using either their own station (if suitably equipped) or a station made available for their use. For these practice sessions, the trainee will take responsibility for all aspects of the contest, including identifying a suitable contest opportunity, locating and reading the rules, configuring N1MM for the contest, completing at least two hours of continuous activity in the contest as evidenced by their N1MM log, and submission of the contest log (in accordance with the contest rules) to the contest sponsor. The trainee will be asked to bring their log to the next formal training session as evidence that they have been practicing. (Remember those music—or anything else you care to substitute—lessons when you were a kid? Remember the look you got from your teacher if you hadn't been practising? Déjà vu.)

In addition to the aforementioned, some changes will be made to better track training participation by each trainee, and to follow up on the session with the trainee by having the mentor advise the trainee as to specific areas for the trainee to work on in subsequent sessions.

An orientation meeting will be set up as soon as feasible (preferably before the first training session at the end of October) to be attended by all trainees.

The Station Manager training program will be integrated into the Operator Training program by having the Station Manager trainee manage the station strategy (band selection, area to be targeted for contest, etc.) during the contest. Station manager trainees will be given pre-contest classroom training sessions so the contest can function as their practice session.

The Station Manager trainee will also function as the trainer for the Operator Trainee, in general.

Operator performance in the last two Field Days shows the training program has been making a difference. This year's changes should go a long way to building the highly experienced, highly competent team of operators and station managers we need for Field Day in 2014.

~ Brett VE7GM

Dates	Contest	Modes
Oct 26-27	CQ Worldwide DX Contest	SSB
Nov 16-18	ARRL Sweepstakes Contest	SSB
Nov 23-24	CQ Worldwide DX Contest	CW
Dec 28	RAC Winter Contest	SSB & CW
Jan 4-5	ARRL Roundup	RTTY
Jan 18-19	North American QSO Party	SSB
Feb 1-2	BC QSO Party	SSB, RTTY & CW
Feb 8-9	CQ WW WPX Contest	RTTY
Feb 22-23	North American QSO Party	RTTY
Mar 29-30	CQ WW WPX Contest	SSB
May 24-25	CQ WW WPX Contest	CW
June 28-29	ARRL Field Day	

### SARC Contest Calendar for 2013/2014

# SARC Snaps This month... The Langley Cruise-In



The final raffle proceeds are not in yet, but it appears that LARA, SEPAR and SARC each made a few hundred dollars profit. We are grateful to those members who pre-sold one of the 33 books and especially to those who sold more than one book. Our sincere thanks to the following SARC and SEPAR members for manning 2 booths at the Cruise-in and their hard

work in selling another (estimated) 25 books:  
Scott VE7HA, Bill VA7ZBL, Anton VE7SSD, Nell VA7PE, Ralph



VA7UB, Al VE7CDC, Kelvin VA7KPH, Jinty VA7JMR, Peter VE7PGX, Donald VE7ZDM, Kapila VE7K GK, Jim Ewing VE7EWG, John VA7XB and his wife Heather. Thanks also to the organizers from LARA: Al Munnik VA7MP, Don Dangelmaier VA7AB, John Mackay VE7EEX, and LARA's volunteers who managed 2 other booths as well as net control. The event organizers were complimentary about the services provided by our 3 organizations which, in addition to fund-raising and promoting amateur radio, provided event information and radio

communication with police, fire and ambulance in support of security and safety.

And the lucky winner are... on page 12





# The SARC Calendar ...places to be in Surrey for Amateur Radio in the month ahead

October 2013						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
		For details on all SARC events, go to <a href="http://ve7sar.net">ve7sar.net</a>  For details on all SEPARS events, go to <a href="http://separ.shutterfly.com/calendar">separ.shutterfly.com/calendar</a>			Weekly SARC Breakfast 8:00 ABC Restaurant 74th & King George Blvd.	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		SEPAR NET 7:30 SARC NET 8:00	SARC Monthly Meeting: Introduction to Digital Modes		Weekly SARC Breakfast 8:00	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		SEPAR NET 7:30 SARC NET 8:00			Weekly SARC Breakfast 8:00	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
		SEPAR NET 7:30 SARC NET 8:00	SARC Exec Meeting		Weekly SARC Breakfast 8:00	Contest: CQ World-wide DX Contest— SSB
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
Contest: CQ World-wide DX Contest—SSB		SEPAR NET 7:30 SARC NET 8:00			Weekly SARC Breakfast 8:00	

Contest Details: <http://hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html>





## QRM

...from the Editor's shack

*Do you have a photo or bit of club news to share?  
Something to sell or something you are looking for?  
Email it to [SARCcommunicator@outlook.com](mailto:SARCcommunicator@outlook.com) for inclusion in  
this column.*

### Farewell Kelvin

Active SARC member, and a good friend to local hams, Kelvin Hall VA7KPH is moving to the Okanagan. Kelvin was the Coordinator for SEPAR, the President of the SEPAR Society for the past 2 years and a past SARC Director. We enjoyed his SEPAR Report in the Communicator and his informative and knowledgeable training sessions.

We wish Kelvin and his wife Judy all the best in their new home and hope to have him continue to check-in to the weekly Net via Echolink.



### Langley Cruise-In 2013 Draw Winners



Our members did well, winning both first and second prizes.

**1st Prize** (\$500 gift certificate for Harrison Hot Springs Resort, including 2 bathrobes) Hiu Yee

**2nd Prize** (Scenic flight for One over Fraser Valley) Scott Hawrelak

**3rd Prize** (Blue Tooth Earpiece) Craig McLaren





## Page 13—News You Can Lose

### The Lighter Side of Amateur Radio

Hams obey  
Ohm's Law

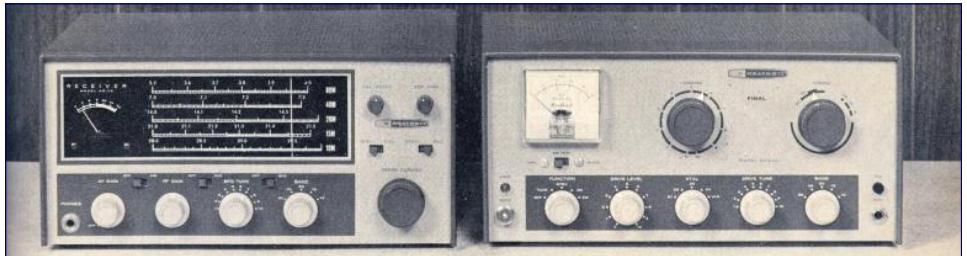
#### Unofficial Q Codes...

Some Q signals have never made it to the ARRL's official list. Here are some that many agree would be useful in appropriate situations. As with regular Q signals, each can be a statement or a question, depending on whether a question mark follows it.

- QBO - Don't sit next to that guy in the meeting.
- QBO? - Buddy, can you spare some soap?
- QET - Phone home.
- QET? - Has anyone called me from another planet?
- QHI - I am jumping in quick to say hi, then going QRT.
- QHI? - Are you leaving after only one transmission?
- QLF - I am sending with my left foot.
- QLF? - Are you sending with your left foot?
- QOK - Your last transmission was Okie Dokie.
- QZZ - I fell asleep at the mike.
- QZZ? - Is that a 60Hz hum, or are you snoring?

#### Do You Remember?

#### Heathkit Catalog Circa 1966



##### Explore The Exciting World Of Amateur Radio With The Heathkit HR-10 . . . Only \$75

• An unequalled value for the beginning ham • High stability and excellent tuning accuracy is achieved through "amateur bands only" coverage • Tunes SSB, AM, & CW on 80-10 meter bands • High quality lattice-type crystal filter for optimum communications selectivity • Optional 100 kc crystal calibrator plugs-in inside of receiver enclosure • 7-tube superheterodyne circuit with RF stage for extra sensitivity • Prebuilt, pre-aligned tuning unit for fast, simple assembly

WHO SAID HAM RADIO HAS TO BE EXPENSIVE? . . . here's the way to start your amateur station on a budget beginners can afford. Build the HR-10! . . . You'll enjoy the easy step-by-step construction, the handsome completed receiver, and the pleasure of operating this excellent performer. Here's a stable, selective receiver. Each band is individually calibrated, and an illuminated slide-rule dial provides accurate frequency settings. A full complement of front-panel controls assures that you will not outgrow your HR-10 . . . tunes AM, CW, and single sideband.

GET THE FEATURES YOU FIND IN "EXPENSIVE" RECEIVERS! The HR-10 has a built-in "S" meter, provisions for a plug-in 100 kc crystal calibrator, separate RF and AF gain controls, and BFO tuning; plus the features you need for operating a complete amateur station . . . a crystal calibrator switch, standby-receive, AVC on/off, and an automatic noise limiter. Send for your HR-10 today!

Kit HR-10, 20 lbs., no money dn., \$8 mo. . . . \$75.00  
Kit HR-10-1, Plug-in 100 kc crystal calibrator, 1 lb. . . . \$8.95  
Kit HS-24, Speaker, 4 lbs. . . . \$7.00  
Export model available for 115/230 VAC, 50-60 Hz; write for prices.

HR-10 SPECIFICATIONS—Frequency coverage: 80 through 10 meters. IF frequency: 1681 kHz. Sensitivity: 1 uv for 10 db signal-to-noise ratio. Image rejection: 40 db or better. Selectivity: 3 kHz at 6 db, 9 kHz at 40 db. Input impedance: 50 to 75 ohm, coaxial. Audio output impedance: 8 or 500 ohm. Tube complement: 6BE6, (2) 6EA8, 6BA6, 6BJ7, 6EB8, 6X4. Power requirements: 117 volts AC, 50/60 Hz, 50 watts. Dimensions: 13 1/2" W x 11 1/2" D x 6 1/2" H.

##### Novice Or Old-Timer . . . You'll Enjoy The DX-60A Phone & CW Transmitter . . . Just \$79<sup>95</sup>

• 90 watts phone or CW—80 through 10 meters • Neutralized 6146 final amplifier • Built-in low pass filter • Grid-block keying—keys beautifully with the HD-10 Electronic Keyer • Easy access to crystal sockets • Go VFO with the HG-10 • May be run at reduced power for novice operation • Mate to the HR-10 NO OTHER TRANSMITTER IN THIS PRICE RANGE WILL OFFER YOU MORE! If you're a novice, the DX-60A is right for you. Operate it at the required 75-watt maximum (crystal control) for novice class CW . . . and later when you get your general class phone license, go to VFO control and use the DX-60A's full 90 watts of power. (See the HG-10 VFO and HD-10 Electronic Keyer on page 76.) GET ON THE AIR WITH A QUALITY PERFORMER. The DX-60A is the style and performance mate of the HR-10. Its quality, well-rated components, thoughtful circuit layout, clean rugged construction, and attractive styling make it the ideal low power transmitter. Building this versatile performer is fast and easy . . . step-by-step instructions and a pre-cut cabled wiring harness make it a satisfying project.

COMPARE—SEE WHY YOU GET MORE FOR YOUR MONEY WITH THE DX-60A! Check these advanced features . . . a low-pass filter to suppress harmonic interference . . . a neutralized final amplifier for high stability . . . excellent grid block keying . . . switch selection of four crystal positions or external VFO for full coverage of amateur bands . . . meter that shows final grid or plate current . . . plus single-knob bandswitching and pi-network for complete operating convenience. Less crystals. Compare! . . . you'll choose the DX-60A.

Kit DX-60A, 24 lbs. . . (less crystals) . . . no money dn., \$8 mo. . . \$79.95  
Export model available for 115/230 VAC, 50-60 Hz; write for prices.

DX-60A SPECIFICATIONS—Power input: 90 watts peak; controlled carrier phone, or CW. Output impedance: 50-75 ohm (coaxial). Output coupling: Pi-network. Operation: CW or AM phone—crystal or VFO control. Band coverage: 80 through 10 meters. Power requirements: 105-125 V., 50-60 Hz, 225 watts. Dimensions: 13 1/2" W x 11 1/2" D x 6 1/2" H.



##### Low-Cost 6 & 2 Meter VHF Transceivers . . . Go VHF For Less Than \$50 With The "Benton Harbor Lunch Boxes"

• Perfect for the ham-on-the-go • Ideal for CAP, MARS, local net, or emergency operations • 5-watt input crystal-controlled A.M. transmitter • HW-30 2-meter model capable of operation on new USCG Auxiliary frequency 143.28 MHz • Optional power supply available for mobile operation

A COMPLETE TRANSCIVER . . . LUNCH BOX SIZE . . . features crystal controlled transmitter with straight-through final. Crystals (not supplied) are in the 8 MHz range. Receiver is super-regenerative with RF stage. 1 microvolt sensitivity! The built-in 120 VAC power supply, press-to-talk switch on front panel and ceramic microphone included make these units ready to go on the air with your antenna. Power cables for mobile and A.C. operation are included.

Kit HW-29A (6 meter), 9 lbs., no money dn., \$5 mo. . . . \$44.95  
Kit HW-30 (2 meter), 9 lbs., no money dn., \$5 mo. . . . \$44.95  
Kit GP-11, Mobile Power Supply, 6 lbs. . . . \$16.88

##### Mobile Power Supply For "Benton Harbor Lunch Boxes"

• Ideal for use with the "Sixer" and "Twoer" • Operates from 6 or 12 volt DC source • Silicon diode rectifiers • Small, compact—easy to install • Provides remote on/off switching • Heathkit green color

Kit GP-11, 6 lbs. . . . \$16.88

GP-11 SPECIFICATIONS—Power requirements: 6 volt version, 5.3 VDC @ 6.5 amperes or 12.6 VDC @ 3 amperes for rated output. Power output: 250 WDC @ 100 mg. ICA. Power rectifier: Two silicon diodes in voltage doubler circuit. Vibrator: Molybdenum type 1A10 or equivalent. Vibrator frequency: Approximately 115 Hz. Overall dimensions: 4 1/2" H x 6 1/2" W x 4 1/2" D.



#### Sign on an Electrician's truck:

**"Let us remove your shorts"**





## SEPAR Report

Fred Orsetti VE7IO



As many of you now know Kelvin Hall, VE7KPH, is moving to the Penticton area and is in the process of packing in preparation for the move. Kelvin has been Coordinator for SEPAR for the past 2 and a half years and has now passed the reigns over to Alan Saunders, VA7BIT, for the balance of the term until the AGM in April. The new VP for SEPAR is Ron Casey, VE7VTA, replacing Alan and I have been appointed to the vacant Directors position.

I am sure I speak for all of us in wishing Kelvin a smooth move to his new QTH and we look forward to being able to QSO with him once he is set up in his new QTH.

All of the above happened in a very short time frame which tightened the need for a SEPAR report as the deadline for the Communicator nears. I have taken this opportunity to pass on information, which Kelvin would normally have handled, to ensure all SEPAR members who receive the Communicator are informed. I will make this report available to all non SARC members as well in a special report to SEPAR.

The communications trailer is now ready for action as they say. The Icom 2820's are fully functioning with RMS Express packet as well as voice and D-Rats communication. VHF/UHF antennas are permanently mounted as is the High Q HF antenna allowing for a very fast setup. BCWARN is installed and working complete with wireless connections and an IP phone. We had the trailer at CN Family Days and it functioned well. We had an opportunity to display the functionality of the radios to the public by taking and sending messages. We mostly used the RMS packet radio,

however voice messaging was available. There are some setup requirements still with the software to develop a protocol for digital messaging, but these are minor issues. We were not able to demonstrate BCWARN as our location did not allow us to connect with the Concord site. There are two permanently mounted monitors connected to the two SEPAR laptops. This gives us excellent visual information and allows visitors to easily see what is being done.

Upcoming exercises are in the planning stages with very early discussions on a Simulated Emergency Test (SET) in early November. Also, we have had discussions with the Cross Border Communications Group (CBCG) regarding a planned exercise using amateur radio between hospitals in the Metro area, Vancouver Island, Whatcom and Skagit counties. This exercise is planned for early January 2014 and messages will be handled almost entirely by digital modes. This points out the need to fast track our digital messaging skills.

For the month of October I will suggest that we shift our training to mainly digital message handling. All of the SEPAR equipment is standardized so we will be able to use the trailer as a classroom along with the EOC radio room to conduct training sessions. I will propose to the SEPAR executive that we increase our training hours of October in preparation for a possible SET in early November.

~ Fred VE7IO

## Mark your calendar... SARC Christmas Party

This year our event is going to be at the Surrey Eaglequest Golf Club in the West Room on the **upper/main floor**. Eaglequest requires us to pay in advance according to their policy, so a substantial deposit has been paid already with the final bill to be paid the week before the event. Final numbers have to be in a **week before the party**. Consequently, this means we need you to purchase your Christmas lunch early and confirm you are coming. I know Christmas seems a long way yet but in terms of organizing it is coming up fast.

You can start paying at the October SARC meeting if you know you are going. **Numbers submitted to Eaglequest** are firm and have to be paid for regardless. To avoid extra charges there will not be a bar set up in our room but members can go to the Creekside Restaurant bar, one floor down, and purchase their own drinks.

I have arranged for some entertainment. If members wish to see the main floor show they need to be at Eaglequest by 11:30 to 11.45 am as that entertainer is on a deadline and has to perform early in order to catch the ferry to Victoria on time. Lunch will be immediately after the show.

We are trying this new venue as the previous one at ABC in White Rock had too many stairs and was open to the noisy restaurant. The ABC restaurant in Surrey where previous ones have been held cannot accommodate larger numbers. You will notice that the cost is a little higher but considering the venue this is not surprising and even with these costs, SARC members' tickets are being subsidized by the club. I hope you will enjoy the new venue and come prepared to have a good time. Eaglequest have a good reputation for putting on good food.

You might want to check with Bill Little that he has your email so you can be assured of not missing out on communications.

One final thing, as in previous years I need members to get donations for the door prize table in addition to the ones I will be purchasing. I will have donation request letters and thank you letters available for you at the October and November meetings. I can also take your donations at these meetings.

Please RSVP me if you are planning on coming to the Christmas party and if you have donations to: [jinty.reid@gmail.com](mailto:jinty.reid@gmail.com)

~ Jinty Reid VA7JMR





## Nauticapedia

John M. MacFarlane VA7PX

### Comox Coast Guard Radio – Over 100 Years of History

**"Mayday!"** A single call over the radio - this simple word sets in motion a very well organized team of professionals to get help to a mariner in peril. Everyone on the water knows that "Mayday" is the spoken distress signal to alert others to immediate danger and potential loss of life, but what people may not know is how that call is handled to make the on-water assistance a reality.



*Comox Coast Guard Radio in 2012. (Photo from MacFarlane Collection)*

Since 1908 there has been a radio presence at Cape Lazo British Columbia perched high on the cliffs overlooking the Strait of Georgia. Today it is recognized as Comox Coast Guard Radio but over one hundred years ago vessels hailed 'Cape Lazo'. The original call sign was SKD until it was changed to VAC in 1913.

The staff who worked in the radio stations in the early days were employees of the Canada Department of Marine and Fisheries unlike their eastern counterparts who worked as employees of the Marconi Company. The original station had transmitting range of 150 miles and broadcast both safety and weather information. Today there are five remote transmit and receive sites linked via a combination of land lines and microwave towers that serve the Comox Coast Guard Radio area of operation.

The radio station remained at Cape Lazo until 1962. The operation was moved to the Civil Air Terminal where it broadcast until a new facility was built on the original Cape Lazo site in 1993. Initially coast guard radio and

vessel traffic management services were separate operations but in 1996 the two services integrated and became Marine Communications and Traffic Services (MCTS).

Currently there are five MCTS centres on the British Columbia coast located at Prince Rupert, Tofino, Comox, Victoria and Vancouver. They provide radio coverage along 25,725 kilometers (15,985 miles) of coastline and regulating nearly a half million individual vessel movements per year. It is a complex job requiring the ability to listen, critically assess incidents and situations and communicate clearly under stressful conditions. In order to become an MCTS Officer a candidate must complete a six month training course at the Canadian Coast Guard College in Sydney Nova Scotia. A potential candidate is given an introduction to the duties and the skills expected of them including radio theory and practices, simulated distress situations and regulating marine traffic. After graduation the trainee is placed with an on-job-instructor to spend another three to four months learning the practical application of their skills that are particular to the station and the region to which they have been posted.

Each station, while performing the same basic duties, has unique equipment and regulating practices. In Tofino and Victoria, for instance, they monitor radar feeds for traffic movement. In Vancouver they routinely assist with anchorages for pilotage. In Prince Rupert they deal with a high number of inbound foreign vessels and in Comox there are a great many log tows and cruise ships that all require different types of traffic advisories.

Comox Coast Guard radio is a 24 hour operation: personnel are on watch every hour of every day throughout the year. Every MCTS Officer is trained to work each of the three radio positions: one is dedicated to marine safety by maintaining a continuous listening watch on VHF radio Channel 16. One is dedicated to marine traffic management by monitoring large computer-rendered charts that display real-time and dead-reckoned ship transits, and one covers marine weather broadcasts while also providing back-up for both safety (the priority) and marine traffic.



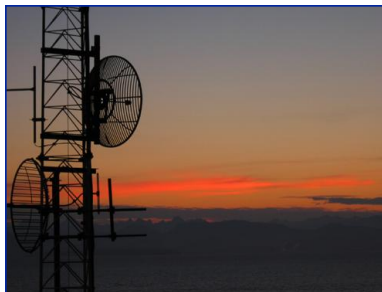
*The Author, Lynn Salmon VA7FIN, works the safety position. The equipment (from left to right): MDS logging screen, radio console - every square represents a guarded frequency for the five remote sites, stand-alone radio with limited coverage and Direction Finding tuning radio in yellow. (Photo from Lynn Salmon Collection)*

On the safety position the primary duty is to maintain a constant listening watch on VHF Channel 16. Calls from a mariner can vary in urgency - a disabled vessel adrift that is in no immediate danger, or a dis-masted sail boat that has an injured crew member on board, water ingress (vessel in danger of sinking) with no engine or anchor to arrest it's charge to the shore! Calls come to the centre primarily on VHF radio but can also reach the MCTS Officer by cellular telephone \*16 calls and via the DSC - digital selective calling unit on marine radios.

The call "Mayday" obviously takes priority over any other type of call. Panicked voices on the radio, reports of vessels on fire, or vessels sinking, or persons abandoning ship - all these situations unfold rapidly (sometimes in mere minutes) and there is no time to waste - information must be gathered and passed on. Instructions must be given to the vessels involved or others in the vicinity. And it must be all be done coolly, accurately and efficiently.

When a distress call is received by an MCTS Officer the basic information is the first collected: the position of the vessel, number of people in danger, the nature of the distress and a brief description of the vessel (type and hull colour for example)). If time allows information about the on-scene weather is collected, the type of life saving devices immediately at hand (life jackets, immersion suits, dinghy) and if available, a cell number in case the battery power of the vessel is lost. A broadcast for assistance is made from the information collected and Joint Rescue Coordination Centre (JRCC) in Victoria is advised of the incident. JRCC are combined coast guard

(marine emergencies) and National Defence RCAF liaison personnel who task resources to assist - whether it's the auxiliary units manned by volunteers, the Cormorant helicopters and Buffalo fixed wing aircraft from 442 Squadron (CFB Comox) or the full time dedicated motor lifeboats stationed along the coast. They are usually the first responders on scene although there are occasions when vessels of opportunity can arrive sooner to render help.



*The radio tower at Cape Lazo showing both microwave and VHF antennas looking towards Powell River at sunrise. (Photo from Lynn Salmon Collection)*

Regardless of who arrives on-scene with a stricken vessel, communications are constantly maintained - MCTS Officers continue to monitor and relay information between the tasked resources (the aircraft, vessels etc.), and other boaters who are offering to assist while transmitting all this information to the Joint Rescue Coordination Centre. Instructions are then passed back through the Marine Communications and Traffic Services (MCTS) to on water resources and the party in distress. It can be a very stressful responsibility at times but very rewarding to those involved as well. A team of people - each with their own unique expertise - make that one word: "Mayday" their number one concern to successfully conclude an incident.

The marine traffic position is responsible for the inside waters from the bottom end of Texada Island north through Discovery Passage, Johnstone Strait and into Queen Charlotte Strait to Cape Caution which mirrors the area of responsibility for coast guard radio.

Vessels transiting these waters communicate with traffic services to receive traffic advisories and waterway safety. Vessels are required to call in at designated 'Calling-in-Points' (CIPs) and provide Estimated Time of Arrivals (ETAs) to the next CIP. With this information the duty MCTS Officers determine what traffic the vessel will encounter and pass this relevant information to the vessel operator.

Just north of the station is a very treacherous area for ship navigation in Discovery Passage known as Seymour Narrows (which includes the remains of Ripple Rock). The masters of vessels of all sizes are very keen to know what traffic will be transiting this narrow and fast-flowing body

of water and at what time. 'Narrows traffic' becomes especially important in the summer when large cruise ships frequently transit these waters and have to manoeuvre through fleets of fishing vessels (often with fishing gear in the water) and tugboats with long, large and unwieldy tows.



Mike Bonnor at the marine traffic position. Lower four screens display area charts, top screens left to right are: DSC monitor (digital selective calling), tide chart for Seymour Narrows, MDS logging screen and passive radar drop from Bowen Island (Photo from Lynn Salmon Collection)

The advent of AIS (Automatic Identification System) systems has added a layer of complexity to traffic regulation; monitoring targets of both participating and non-participating traffic requires constant vigilance. AIS is a radio frequency propagated tracking system used on ships and by MCTS for identifying and locating vessels by exchanging data with other nearby ships and AIS base stations. Readers can see real-time AIS via the internet at [Marine Traffic AIS](#).

The weather position has multiple functions. They provide backup for the primary safety position but the majority of the work is updating weather products sent from Environment Canada and recorded for transmission on the Continuous Marine Broadcast (CMB) and incorporates lighthouse observed weather taken at regular four hour collection times. Comox is unique as the station observes and records a 'local' weather report to be added to the lighthouse data collection.

Additionally, hourly automated reports (land-based stations) and ocean buoy reports (from buoys tethered out in the Pacific Ocean) are automatically recorded onto the Continuous Marine Broadcast using a text to voice computer system. To automate the system three thousand individual words and numbers were recorded by an MCTS Officer in Vancouver and it is her voice that the mariners hear during their transit of BC waters for the automated and buoy reports assembled by the computer and

broadcast on the radio. Other recordings made by on-watch MCTS Officers for the Continuous Marine Broadcast include tsunami alerts, ship weather observations and safety information such as military exercise warnings and any notifications concerning on-going urgency and mayday assistance requests.

Comox is the third busiest marine traffic centre across Canada handling an average of 900 marine incidents and emergencies per year (behind only Victoria and Halifax). In total, the five west coast centres handle 60% of all marine incidents and traffic movements in Canada.

Presently there are 22 MCTS centres in operation across Canada. The Government of Canada announced in May 2012 that this number will be reduced by closing 10 centres across the country including the one at Comox by 2015. The five centres that once worked to ensure safety to mariners on the British Columbia coast will be consolidated into two 'super centres' to be located at Prince Rupert and Victoria. This project will be an enormous undertaking considering the distances and number of sites involved.

Comox Coast Guard Radio may soon be silenced but mariners will remember the work done on their behalf by the dedicated staff at SKD/VAC for over a century.

~ Salmon, Lynn VA7FIN (2012)

Comox Coast Guard Radio - Over One Hundred Years of History. [Nauticapedia.ca](http://nauticapedia.ca) 2012.

<http://nauticapedia.ca/Articles/>

Updated August 8th, 2012

### 2013-2014 Membership Dues

All members must have paid dues within the next 4 weeks, as we need the roster up-to-date for our RAC insurance application which must be filed before the end of October (late filers are subject to a \$100 surcharge).

Please pay at the October 9th meeting or send your cheque to our Treasurer:

Scott VE7HA  
13935 80A Ave.  
Surrey, BC V3W 6P5

Individual dues are \$30 but, if you are also a member of RAC, a \$5 discount applies.

The family rate is \$40 (2 or more members in one family), also with the RAC member discount.





## RAC News Radio Amateurs of Canada

### Leave the HAMFEST with a new radio!

Please come to the Radio Amateur of Canada Annual General Meeting on Oct 5th, 2013 in Ancaster, Ontario in conjunction with the Hamilton Amateur Radio Club and the Hamilton Amateur Radio Hamfest.

The AGM begins at 1PM in Merritt Hall on the Ancaster Fair Grounds.

We will have a business meeting to review the audited statements for 2012, confirm the Auditor for 2013 and discuss a bylaw amendment.

After the business meeting we will have a Q and A session and then we are asking people to raise their hands to debate your President and Board on the future of RAC.

If you can't come to Ancaster: We have set up GO TO WEBINAR session for those members that cannot be present. To participate in the meeting online, members are asked to send an email to [frank@rac.ca](mailto:frank@rac.ca) as soon as possible.

**EVERYONE WANTS TO GO HOME FROM A HAMFEST WITH A RADIO:**

Radioworld and ICOM have given RAC two radios and we can't take them home! - you could win one!

Radioworld and ICOM collaborated to provide an Icom IC-7000 HF/VHF/UHF Mobile Transceiver (a \$1400 Value).

Icom Canada has provided an ICOM ID31A - UHF DSTAR Handheld Radio valued at \$355.

We will be selling raffle tickets for \$10 for 1 ticket, or 3 tickets for \$20. Anyone joining or renewing RAC as a Maple Leaf Member will get a free ticket. Look for the ticket sales adjacent to the RADIOWORLD Booth.

The draw will be held @ 6:00 PM and all proceeds go to RAC.

*Geoff Bawden, VE4BAW*  
President and Chair RAC

### ----- IARU Administrative Council Annual Meeting

The Administrative Council (AC) of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) held its annual meeting on 21 and 22 September 2013 in Cancun, Mexico. The AC is responsible for the policy and management of the IARU

and consists of the three IARU international officers and two representatives from each of the three IARU regional organizations.

Here is a summary of the discussions and actions:

1. The consultative process was completed for the election of IARU President and Vice President for the 2014-2019 terms of office. The Secretary was instructed to present to the member-societies, in a Calendar to be issued no later than 9 December 2013, proposals by the International Secretariat with the concurrence by the Administrative Council that Tim Ellam, VE6SH/G4HUA, be elected for a five-year term as IARU President and Ole Garpestad, LA2RR be elected for a five-year term as IARU Vice President.
2. The Council discussed the issue of some member-societies failing to represent all of the amateurs in their country. For example, some do not participate in their regional organization activities, some do not pay their regional dues, some are unwilling to handle non-member QSL cards even on a cost-recovery basis and some even fail to respond to inquiries from their regional organizations. In many of these countries, there are other non-IARU member-societies. The Administrative Council is studying ways to work with the non-IARU societies to ensure that the interests of all the amateurs are represented in those countries where the IARU member-society fails to do so. Possible solutions to the situation include establishing communications with the non-IARU societies to allow input from the country's amateur community on IARU and amateur related issues or by recommending the use of QSL bureaus that will service all the amateurs within a particular country.
3. The IARU positions for WRC-15 agenda items and future WRC agenda items were reviewed and the strategy for achieving IARU objectives at WRC-15 was discussed.
4. The Council reviewed and updated the IARU Spectrum Requirements Document. The document is available on the IARU web site.
5. The Future Spectrum Committee presented its final report. The committee report detailed current amateur usage of bands above 148 MHz. The Council approved a plan to have one person in each region to serve as a contact person in spectrum matters.

6. The President reported on the IARU acceptance of an ITU invitation to participate in the ITU Spectrum Management Training Program (SMTP) and accepted an appointment on the founding board of advisers for the ITU-D Smart Sustainable Development Model (SSDM).
  7. IARU participation in World Telecom 2013 in Bangkok, Thailand was reviewed. IARU will have a booth at the event to promote amateur radio. More information about the Telecom can be found at [www.world2013.itu.int](http://www.world2013.itu.int)
  8. The Council reviewed and refined a draft paper on emergency communications strategy.
  9. The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) meetings at which IARU representation will be required for the coming year were identified, and plans for representation at these meetings were reviewed.
  10. The Michael J. Owen VK3KI Award was awarded to David Wardlaw, VK3ADW and Wojciech Nietyksza SP5FM. Both of these individuals have made contributions of time, effort and expertise to the IARU for many years. The award was created by the Administrative Council to recognize an individual or individuals that best exemplify the dedication and hard work of IARU volunteers.
  11. The theme "Amateur Radio: Your Gateway to Wireless Communications" was adopted for the next World Amateur Radio Day, April 18, 2014.
  12. Ken Garg, W3JK was added to the list of IARU Expert Consultants.
  13. The budget for 2014-2016 as presented by the IS was reviewed and adopted. The budget is based upon anticipated financial contributions from the three regional organizations to defray a portion of the expenses, in accordance with previously adopted policy.
  14. Reports of the IARU international coordinators and advisers were received. They are International Beacon Project Coordinator Peter Jennings, AB6WM/VE3SUN; Satellite Adviser Hans van de Groenendaal, ZS6AKV; EMC Adviser Christian Verholt, OZ8CY; International Coordinator for Emergency Communications Hans Zimmermann, F5VKP/HB9AQS; and EMC Coordinator Thilo Kootz, DL9KCE. The Council reappointed each of the coordinators and advisers to a new three-year term.
- Attending the Cancun meeting were IARU President Tim Ellam, VE6SH/G4HUA; Vice President Ole Garpestad, LA2RR; Secretary Rod Stafford, W6ROD; regional representatives Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T, Dennis Green, ZS4BS, Reinaldo Leandro, YV5AM, Ramon Santoyo, XE1KK, Gopal Madhavan, VU2GMN, Geoff Atkinson, VK3TL; and recording secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ. Also in attendance as observers were Jay Bellows, K0QB representing the IARU International Secretariat and Jose Arturo Molina, YS1MS as Region 2 observer.
- The next scheduled in-person meeting of the AC will be held in the vicinity of Varna, Bulgaria, in September 2014 in conjunction with the IARU Region 1 Conference.

### Free Basic Licensing Course

The Emergency Planner for Port Coquitlam is sponsoring a 3 day Basic amateur radio licence course for free. The dates are October 16, 17, and 18.

For registration or for more information contact Tara Stroup, Emergency Program Officer, at (604) 927-5460 or at [stroupt@portcoquitlam.ca](mailto:stroupt@portcoquitlam.ca)

If you know of anyone who is considering the acquisition of an amateur radio license please have them sign up with Tara.

~ Ron Casey VE7VTA





## QRT...

John Brodie VA7XB

At the last meeting we reviewed the various tasks that require members' involvement and highlighted those that are still unfilled. Although the initial response was not overwhelming, a couple of members stepped up afterwards to offer their help.

I am pleased to say that we now have a Secretary - Rob VE7CZV has graciously volunteered to fill the position with the full support of the Executive. In addition, Jonathon VA7JBC offered to assist Rick VE7GMO with equipment maintenance and help Anton VE7SSD with meeting refreshments. Kapila VE7KKG added his name to the official photographer's list.

Thanks to these new volunteers and especially to members who continue to take on responsibilities year after year. However, a few vacancies are still apparent.

Please review the spreadsheet attached (*click on the PDF icon at right*) and offer your services.



This club can only be as good as the participation of its members, so if you enjoy the privileges of your membership then you should consider doing your part to make it a better organization. Have a look at those positions highlighted in gray and let us know what you are willing to do.

I should say that "meet and greet" is really the job of all of us... take the time to look around you at club meetings and introduce yourself to your neighbour, especially visitors. If you make that person feel welcome, he or she will likely come back and make the club stronger.

~ John VA7XB



## SARC Christmas Party

**Where:** Eaglequest Coyote Creek Golf Club, 7778 - 152nd Street, Surrey

**When:** December 7, 2013  
from 11 am until 2 pm

**Cost:** SARC members and guests:  
\$30 per person

SEPAR members and guests: \$40 per person.


SARC & SEPAR members and guests are cordially invited to attend.

Come and join us for Caesar salad, Christmas turkey and all the trimmings with Baked Eggnog Cheese Cake & Berry Coulis for Dessert. Vegetarian option available.

Awards and door prizes (including a radio) will be part of the event, as well as entertainment.



RSVP to [jinty.reid@gmail.com](mailto:jinty.reid@gmail.com)



**HAMNation**

**NOW ON WEDNESDAY!**

TWIT (This Week in Technology) presents  
a weekly HD video webcast about Ham Radio.

Hosted by Leo Laporte W6TWT, Bob Heil K9EID, and Gordon West WB6NOA  
with George Thomas W5JDX covering 'Smoke and Solder'.

Recorded live each Wednesday night 8 PM CDT at [live.twit.tv](http://live.twit.tv)  
All programs archived at [twit.tv/hn](http://twit.tv/hn)

Join us each Wednesday and don't miss seeing the first episode with special  
guest Joe Walsh WB6ACU, who wrote and plays the theme music for  
HAMNation.

Help us spread the word about HAMNation.